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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|-------------|----------------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| 10/602,607 | 06/25/2003 | Kohji Takikura | SN-US020194 | 2417 |
| 22919 | 7590 | 04/30/2004 | EXAMINER | |
| SHINJYU GLOBAL IP COUNSELORS, LLP 1233 20TH STREET, NW, SUITE 700 WASHINGTON, DC 20036-2680 | | | MARCELO, EMMANUEL MONSAYAC | |
| | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER | |
| | | 3654 | | |

DATE MAILED: 04/30/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) |
|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| | 10/602,607 | TAKIKURA ET AL. |
| Examiner | Art Unit | |
| Emmanuel M Marcelo | 3654 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) Claim(s) 1-4, 6, 10-15, 17, 21 and 22 is/are rejected.
7) Claim(s) 5, 7-9, 16 and 18-20 is/are objected to.
8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on 25 June 2003 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 6, 10-12, 17, 21 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent no. 5,316,239 to Sugawara.

With respect to claims 1, 6, 10-12, 17, 21 and 22, Sugawara, in Figures 1 and 3, discloses a spinning reel reciprocating mechanism for axially reciprocating a spool in cooperation with rotation of a handle 1, the spool 5 being mounted fore-end wise on a spool shaft 9, the spinning reel reciprocating mechanism comprising: a reel unit on which the handle 1 and the spool shaft 9 are furnished; a sliding member 13 adapted to be mounted on the spool shaft 9 immovably relative to the spool shaft 9 at least in the spool shaft axial direction; a shifting means 11 for reciprocating the sliding member 13 in the spool shaft axial direction in cooperation with rotation of the handle 1; and at least one guide shaft 14 adapted to be supported by the reel unit in a plurality of locations (at axial ends of the 14 by the reel frame) on an outer circumferential surface of the guide shaft 14 for guiding the sliding member 13 in a direction substantially parallel to the spool shaft 9, the guide shaft 14 having a position-restricting portion (in Fig. 3, portion of 14 engaged with unnumbered member near axial (left) end of 14) for preventing the

guide shaft 14 from being disengaged from the reel unit in at least one axial direction of the guide shaft.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 2-4 and 13-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sugawara.

Sugawara is silent regarding the unnumbered element in Figure 3 that is located near the left end (as seen in Figure 3) of guiding member 14. Sugawara is does not explicitly teach a groove on the guiding member 14.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide Sugawara with a groove on member 14 so that a positive engagement between the unnumbered element (in Figure 3) and guiding member 14 can be achieved. Also, snap rings and hairpin retainers are well-known in the art. It would have been obvious to replace the unnumbered element in Figure 3 with either a snap ring or a hairpin retainer because they are old and well known in the art and using such elements do not produce unexpected results.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 5, 7-9, 16 and 18-20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

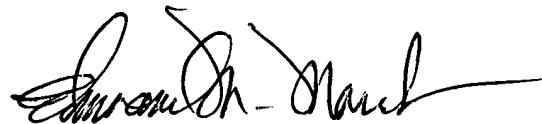
Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Emmanuel M Marcelo whose telephone number is 703-305-6597. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Katherine Matecki can be reached on 703-308-2688. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Emmanuel M Marcelo
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3654

emm
April 28, 2004